

STAT

Page Denied

STAT

NINTH PLENUM SPEECH OF JERZY PRYMA
ON EXPANDING AGRICULTURE AND LIGHT INDUSTRY
IN WARSAW WOJEWODZTWO, POLAND

Nowe Drogi
 Warsaw, Oct 1953

[The following report of Jerzy Pryma, First Secretary of the Warsaw Wojewodztwo Committee of the PZPR (Polish United Workers' Party), was given at the Ninth Plenum of the Central Committee of the PZPR, held in Warsaw on 29-30 October 1953.]

The report was given at the plenum as an amplification of the featured report of Premier Boleslaw Bierut, "Task of Party in Struggle to Raise Standard of Living of Workers in Current Phase of Building Socialism." An English-language translation of Bierut's report is available in the PAP (Polish Press Agency) release of 6 November 1953, pages 1-44.]

The main obstacle in the struggle to raise agricultural production is the poorly developed party organization in the village. Only 2,653 of 6,352 villages have a party organization. This impedes our work with the individual peasant farmer, the work of increasing agricultural production, and the work of developing producers' cooperatives.

The task of our party echelons is to acquaint the primary party organizations with the party's policy of dependence on the poor peasantry; to show the primary organizations how to organize their work with the poor peasantry; and to systematically explain to the primary organizations the policies of the party and the government and the tasks involved in the development of rural economy. This development in turn is the basis for the proper development of the party in the village.

Misunderstandings also appear in our wojewodztwo, and often warped interpretations of the party line as regards the worker-peasant alliance. It is most important for us that the party echelons and party organizations understand and explain party policy and the essential meaning of the worker-peasant alliance.

The expansion of the party in the village is very closely connected with increasing agricultural production and the struggle for increased productivity. The party must be expanded if the small peasant is to be activated and kulak exploitation restricted.

In our wojewodztwo there are about 105,000 farms without horses. These farms should be the first to receive aid from the party. The state and village MTS should also give them assistance to prevent kulak exploitation. The primary party organizations and the people's councils should consider the poor peasantry their basic support, should show concern for the poor peasantry's needs and defend its interests, and should systematically work toward strengthening the alliance with the medium peasant.

In the last 3 months, the Powiat Committee in Ostroleka placed on its agenda 14 times the problem of the development of the party organization. There have been no results so far. Why? Because the matter was considered from the narrow standpoint of organizational development only, without associating party development with the current problems of the peasants.

STAT

In view of the tasks set before us by the ninth plenum, we should endeavor to shift to the village the large number of agronomists employed in industry. The guiding principles and Bierut's speech indicate the measures to be taken in Warsaw Wojewodztwo to raise agricultural production and to develop the light and food industries.

We must see to it that party members working in the village, especially members of party echelons, increase their knowledge of agronomy. We shall devote part of the training time to lectures on agronomy. We shall require wojewodztwo and powiat committee members to have some knowledge of the basic principles of agronomy. We shall also teach village activists to connect political problems with the problems of increasing agricultural production.

Following the Politburo's evaluation of the wojewodztwo conferences, and Comrade Bierut's speech in Szczecin, we took measures this year to get the organizations to devote more time to raising agricultural production and working with the individual peasant farmer. We tried to help the party organizations to arouse and develop the peasants' initiative, and have tried to improve the work of the Union of Peasant Self-Help.

In our work, we encountered many difficulties due to favoritism, misunderstanding, ignorance, bureaucracy, and lack of confidence in the working peasant. This proves that we have shamefully neglected our work with the individual peasants and the village party organizations.

We must also be more insistent in making our party organizations understand that the problem of activating all available resources to raise crop and livestock production is all important. With some of our powiats containing 300 or 400 villages, our task will be difficult. To come closer to the peasants we must reorganize our administration and strengthen the agricultural and forestry divisions. We must have more assistance from the Ministries of Agriculture and State Farms, and the scientific institutes in Warsaw. We must also change the personnel relations work of the Ministry of Forestry.

While devoting our attention to increasing production of grain, potatoes, industrial crops, and livestock, we must also remember to increase vegetable and fruit production. We must shift production of state farms to vegetables, milk, and livestock and organize producers cooperatives on the same lines. We must also develop the processing of fruits and expand greenhouses and hotbeds.

While helping the peasants, we must also restrict the exploitation of the kulak. Our wojewodztwo organization has not yet solved this problem properly.

It is important that we discuss matters with the peasant shockworkers. At a meeting of wojewodztwo committee instructors it was learned that shockworker Wojciechowski in Frzasnysz was achieving a yield of 45 quintals per hectare and has been an expert farmer for many years. That many instructors found this hard to believe only shows how lax we have been in publicizing shockworkers' achievements and work methods.

We will have to re-examine the status of vocational education and expand agricultural schools at the expense of some less important trade schools. We must give more attention to the work of the schools and the placement of their graduates. We must ask for more consideration for the needs of the villages in our wojewodztwo for wired radio, motion-picture theaters, and other cultural facilities, because many powiats have been badly neglected in this respect.

STAT

We must make better use of the province's cultural facilities -- radio stations, reading rooms, artistic groups, motion-picture theaters -- for agricultural propaganda. We must also make better use of our schools in disseminating agricultural knowledge.

We also have to deal with certain shortcomings within the central organization.

There seems to be no appreciation of our wojewodztwo's need to develop the light industry, the building industry, the food industry, small-scale industries, services for the needs of the expanding cities, and, particularly, agriculture.

There is a great shortage of housing and cultural facilities in Zyrardow, Pruszkow, Siedlce, Plock and Bionie, and a shortage of housing for workers on state farms and MTS.

It might be possible in 1954 and 1955, to locate in our wojewodztwo more light industry plants which do not require large transports of raw materials.

There are also possibilities of expanding light industry and small-scale industries based on local raw materials (such as chalk, peat, agricultural and forest raw materials, vegetables and fruit, and clay) and exploiting available sources of water power, etc.

We must obtain larger quantities of raw materials for the existing light industry and work cooperatives, in order to expand the assortment and fully utilize the productive capabilities of these plants.

We also have a reputation for agricultural machine production. We have successfully mastered production of a new threshing machine and combine. Therefore we think that the Harvest Machine Factory (Fabryka Maszyn Zniwnych) in Plock should be expanded.

It would also be well to speed up investments in the Warsaw Paper Plants in Jeziorne, instead of spreading the investments over a period of several years and freezing the capital in the meantime.

We shall not ignore the use of waste materials in developing secondary production in heavy and light industry.

In conclusion, I wish to draw attention to the fact that Warsaw Wojewodztwo has 29 idle brickyards in which the Ministry of Small Scale Industries shows no interest. With an outlay of about 40 million zlotys these brickyards could produce 71 million bricks a year. In 1953 we activated two idle brickyards at an expense of 170,000 zlotys. In 6 months these brickyards produced 1.33 million adobe bricks and 1.3 million fired bricks.

To achieve the tasks set up by the ninth plenum, Warsaw Wojewodztwo must have the help of the Central Committee, all activists, all party members, and the working masses and peasants.

- E N D -

STAT